

# The Times-Dispatch

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1907.

Make use of time, let not advantage  
slip—Shakespeare.

## A Good Investment.

In one sense the Y. M. C. A. is ap-  
pealing to the generosity of the people  
of this community; in a higher sense it  
is asking them to take an interest in the  
new building as an investment. What  
is the best investment? It is that  
which is safest and which yields at the  
same time the best return. An invest-  
ment in the Y. M. C. A. is undoubtedly  
safe. The institution is well established,  
and it has been thoroughly tested and  
proven. And as for the returns on the  
investment, the secretary's records speak  
for themselves.

Why is the Y. M. C. A. asking for a  
new building? Because it has far out-  
grown the present building. The de-  
mands upon it, even with its poor equip-  
ment, are greater than its accom-  
modations. It is asking for a new build-  
ing for the reason that a manufacturer  
enlarges his plant when his business has  
increased to such an extent that he can-  
not keep up with his orders. Richmond  
has grown up since the present Y.  
M. C. A. building was erected. The  
population has increased, the business of  
the city has increased, and there has  
been advance all along the line. The  
Y. M. C. A. has kept up with the pro-  
gress of Richmond, but while we have  
enlarged our factories and stores, our  
churches, our schoolhouses and all our  
facilities, the Y. M. C. A. has not ex-  
tended its quarters. It is doing a great  
amount of work in the same old building.  
It has been a busy and non-progressive  
present building would have been  
ruined. But as it has been energetic and  
enterprising, it has outgrown its plant.  
If it can get a handsome new building,  
with proper equipment, it will increase  
its activities and quadruple its results.

That is the reason for an enlarged  
building. But why a fine building? Because  
the more attractive the building, the more  
attractive the institution to the men and  
boys it aims to draw under its shelter  
and within its influences. More than  
that, the building should be of itself  
an expression of the interest we feel in  
the youths of Richmond. How much is  
a boy worth? How much is his salvation  
worth? Let the building bespeak our  
estimate.

The Y. M. C. A. is not perfect. It  
may not be the best institution to reach  
out and save our youths. But it is the  
best institution for that purpose which  
ever has been discovered and established.  
It is the only institution of the kind we  
have in Richmond. Let us make it as  
good and as useful as we can, then leave  
the results with Providence. Every citi-  
zen must judge for himself what his  
own duty is to this benevolent enter-  
prise, but we hope he will judge liberally.

## A Mystery Solved.

The editor of the Akron, O., Times has  
favored us with the text of an article  
which appeared in that paper on January  
23 on the Lee centenary, and invites our  
comment. In it we find an interesting  
parallel between General Lee and General  
George H. Thomas. Both, we are told,  
were educated at West Point at the ex-  
pense of the government. Both were sol-  
diers of distinguished ability and devoted  
courage. "It should seem, therefore," adds  
the Ohio newspaper, "that two characters  
thus living and acting are entitled to have  
equal respect shown to their memory in  
the State and section where both were  
born and where their career was run."

"Is it so? Do the people of Virginia  
cherish the recollection of the younger  
son of the Old Dominion as they do that  
of the elder? Is Thomas held in  
equal veneration there as Lee?"

"We know he is not, and that in his  
native State he is generally—perhaps uni-  
versally—contemned and despised."  
"There is no explanation," our con-  
temporary adds, "and that is that the one  
fought for, and the other against, the  
government which educated both to the  
profession of arms—because one defend-  
ed and the other assailed the flag which  
both alike had sworn to uphold, because  
the one drew his sword to maintain, and  
the other to break up, the Union of  
States which both had professed to love,  
and to establish which the fathers of  
both had striven."

"There can be no doubt about this.  
And it all goes to show that very much  
of the protestation of patriotism and loy-  
alty to an indivisible country is affecta-  
tion and lip-service when brought to such  
a test as this. That Lee foreswore his  
allegiance to his government and bent  
all his great abilities to its destruction,  
and for it should be enshrined in his  
people's Valhalla, while Thomas was left  
to die in exile from his State with a

memory still exacerated by her inhabitants,  
is a strange thing if patriotism has any  
meaning at all."

Our contemporary makes its own mys-  
tery by reasoning from false premises.  
General Lee did not "assail the flag" of  
the Union nor undertake to disrupt the  
Union. The Union was already disrupted.  
Virginia had already adopted the ordi-  
nances of secession, when he resigned his  
commission in the United States army.  
He had nothing to do with secession; he  
had nothing to do with bringing about the  
conflict, but when the conflict came  
he said that he must obey his conscience  
and share the fate of his own kind and  
kin, whatever it might be.

His native State, to which he owed  
his first allegiance, had exercised her  
sovereign right to withdraw from the  
Union, and she called upon her every son  
to follow her flag. General Lee could not  
turn a deaf ear to that call, and his  
response was as noble and as patriotic  
an example and expression of patriotism  
as any recorded in history. We love Lee  
for his patriotism and for the sacrifice  
which he made for it; and his example  
is an incentive to patriotism.

## St. Louis, the Beautiful.

The Civic League of St. Louis proposes  
to expend \$25,000,000 during the next sev-  
eral years in beautifying that city, their  
design being to make St. Louis the most  
attractive city in the country. To that  
end bills have been introduced in the  
Legislature, and while the city is not  
able to expend \$25,000,000 at once, as it  
now close up to the bond limit, it is cal-  
culated that the increase in values will  
be such as to justify the increase of the  
bonded debt of the city from year to  
year until the whole issue of \$25,000,000  
of improvement bonds may be made.

The special work of the league, will  
be in the development of parks within  
and without the city. Much property  
within the city limits will be condemned  
and converted into urban parks. In addi-  
tion, it is proposed to acquire large bodies  
of land outside the city and convert  
them into attractive suburban parks. The  
Legislature will be asked to enlarge the  
powers of the city, so as to give it joint  
control with the county of these out-  
lying parks, and as the benefit to the  
county will be great, it is proposed that  
the county shall bear half the cost of  
maintenance.

Richmond has a number of attractive  
suburban parks, but still not enough.  
It would be a public blessing and would  
be of enormous value to the city as a  
place of residence if we had within  
a few miles of the limits a great wood-  
land park of several hundred acres, that  
the people who are unable to leave the  
city during the hot season might have  
a place of refreshment and recreation.  
Lands for that purpose could now be  
acquired at comparatively small cost,  
and they would be a splendid investment  
for the municipality itself, to say nothing  
of the benefits and blessings to the peo-  
ple. St. Louis is setting us a good exam-  
ple.

## Crying For Mercy.

A bill has been introduced in the Legis-  
lature of Alabama providing for the re-  
duction of railroad fares in that State  
to two cents a mile, but the Mobile Regis-  
ter says that it is unlikely that the bill  
will pass.

"The correction of abuses," argues our  
contemporary, "cannot be obtained by  
cutting off one-third the railroad revenue  
from passenger traffic; in fact, reduction  
will only work against the reforms the  
public demand in other directions. The  
State cannot consistently reduce the earn-  
ing power of the railroads, and then re-  
quire them to make expensive changes  
in operation and equipment, based on  
present earning power."

It takes a brave newspaper to preach  
that doctrine, for it is not popular. But  
the people should be brought to reflection.  
The railroads have themselves to blame  
for the attitude of the general public  
towards them, as The Times-Dispatch has  
on various occasions pointed out, but the  
public must be conservative. Two wrongs  
never made a right; and while the rail-  
road must be disciplined and made to  
subserve the public interest, the public  
will defeat its own end if it adopts mea-  
sures that will cripple the roads and im-  
pair their usefulness by harsh and un-  
reasonable exactions. The cost of mate-  
rials and of labor has greatly advanced,  
making the cost of operation very much  
higher than it was a year ago, as the  
difference between gross and net earnings  
abundantly shows. The railroads are not  
only important factors in trade, but are  
most important industries within them-  
selves. They must be regulated, but it  
would be a destructive policy to regulate  
them in such a way as to make them  
unprofitable. The railroads have been  
arrogant and defiant, but the time is  
drawing nigh, if it has not already come,  
when they must beg for mercy.

## A Courageous Democrat.

Mr. Edgar Gardner Murphy, of Mont-  
gomery, who has been known as the  
"father and founder" of the National  
Child Labor Committee, has withdrawn  
from that organization because of its  
endorsement of the Federal child labor  
bill recently introduced at Washington  
by Senator Beveridge, of Indiana. This  
bill, as our readers know, is designed to  
regulate child labor in all the States  
through the operation of the interstate  
commerce law. Mr. Murphy is in favor of  
regulating child labor, and has done per-  
haps as much as any man in that direc-  
tion; but he balks at this audacious at-  
tempt to override the rights of the States  
by an ingenious application of a Federal  
law which its framers never dreamed of.  
"If a Federal authority under the inter-  
state commerce clause of the Constitution  
can go back of the article offered for  
commerce, in order to reach one set of  
conditions," says Mr. Murphy, "why may  
it not use these same means to reach  
other conditions?"

If this principle be recognized, there is  
hardly any subject which the Federal gov-  
ernment could not control through the  
interstate commerce law, and we are glad  
that Mr. Murphy, a representative South-  
ern man, has had the courage and the  
conscience to express his disapproval by  
withdrawing from the committee. The  
Federalists are running mad, and if they

have their way they will destroy the  
principle of local self-government, individ-  
ual responsibility, mainly self-reliance and  
every other fundamental of democracy.  
Democracy is a dynamic force. It regu-  
lates from within, and not from without.

The plan to group the institutions of  
higher learning in Richmond, somewhat  
after the Oxford system, is a most at-  
tractive one. Each institution would  
have its independent existence and con-  
trol, would be in a measure segregated,  
and have ample grounds about it. The  
advantage in having these diverse in-  
stitutions closely associated are too  
patent to need amplification.

It would be good for Richmond and  
good for the State if such a colligation  
and collaboration of educational institu-  
tions could be effected—Staunton Dis-  
patch.

A great university cannot be built in  
a day. But we have the nucleus. We  
have a substantial foundation, and the  
superstructure will be built. The natural  
constructive forces are so strong that  
they cannot be restrained.

Senator Tillman generously agreed to  
withhold his funny speech from the Re-  
cord, but it has served its purpose. It  
has been published in the newspapers, and  
has given the Tillman show more adver-  
tisement. But it should not be kept out  
of the Record. It should be preserved in  
official form and handed down as a rich  
specimen of Mr. Tillman's buffoonery.  
And it should by all means be accom-  
panied by Senator Carmack's retort,  
which was so sharp-pointed and forceful  
that it must have penetrated and stung  
even the tough covering of the Senator  
from South Carolina.

If our contemporary is determined on  
this grammatical harlequin, we cannot  
help it. Of course, "grape" is used col-  
lectively, to denote the various species  
of the fruit as a whole, as one would  
say, "the apple," to denote apples col-  
lectively as a fruit; but grape is hardly  
allowable collectively in the basket sense.  
—Norfolk Landmark.

Then the Century Dictionary is wrong,  
for it says that "grape" is used collec-  
tively in the singular. It does not so say of  
"apple," and the reason is apparent, for  
apples, as a rule, do not grow in clus-  
ters. Grape being a collective noun, it is  
quite as correct to say, in a quantitative  
sense, a basket of grape as it is to say a  
basket of fish. The Landmark will now  
go to the foot.

It is reported from Montgomery that  
the Legislature has virtually decided to  
investigate Tuskegee, the educational in-  
stitution presided over by Booker T.  
Washington. Many charges have been  
brought against that college, and the  
general public would like to know whether  
or not they are true. If they are true,  
they should be established; if they are  
untrue, it is but justice to the institution  
that they be disproven. The investigation  
ought by all means to be made, and in a  
spirit of friendliness and exact justice.

We are gratified to learn that Em-  
peror Menelik is now pushing to com-  
pletion the railway between Jibuti and  
Addis Ababa. The Emperor's previous  
stiffness in the premises has been a  
subject of deep resentment among the  
other great powers.

What kind of testimonial could Alfred  
Austin give to the New York Mail post,  
who rhymes "service" and "nervous"?  
Service of that kind is not nervous. It  
is merely nerve, eh, Alfred?

Undoubtedly Mr. Tillman's buffoon-  
eries help to swell the gate-receipts at  
his lectures. No one understands better  
than the Senator how to mount a big  
balance.

Senator Carmack distinctly insinuates  
that Coleman Tillman has "a groveling  
controversial faculty." Possibly this is the  
most elegant description of a pitchfork  
yet on record.

If Sir A. Swettenham continues his ser-  
vice as Governor of Jamaica, it will be  
difficult to escape the conclusion that that  
kind of Governor is good enough for Old  
England.

Dramatist Arthur Pinero is going  
around complaining that the modern plays  
are "too much over-dressed." Comstock is  
going to catch Art if he doesn't watch  
out.

Blanche Walsh, by inventing a non-  
punishable automobile tire, seems to  
deserve something in the way of a box  
of bon-bons from the Anti-Profanity  
Society.

A weekly edition for the blind is  
shortly to be issued by the London Daily  
Mail. Any bet that the new weekly's  
readers won't be able to see its faults,  
all right?

In time, no doubt, the New York So-  
ciety for the Prevention of Useless  
Noises will book a date to look over the  
Hon. Tim Woodruff's stock of walst-  
coats.

Still, after Mr. Harriman had absent-  
mindedly slipped the universe into his  
vest pocket, it does look as if he had no  
business to go off and change his vest.

## Rhymes for To-Day

The Fan Flirtation, Michigan  
Style.

(A Michigan girl shot a man and shortly  
afterward married him.)

O H, I was a man in Michigan,  
And a beautiful woman she,  
And I married her to tell that she liked  
me well.

"Twas, in short, too plain to see  
That she had no other plan (as the Poe line  
ran)  
"Than to love and be loved by me."

So in shy demur I remarked to her:  
"I ain't a marryin' man."  
And she cried: "Great Day! You don't  
know the way  
We do here in Michigan!"  
And she gave such a look that I bashfully  
took  
To my nimble heels and ran.

But her deft lasso soon laid me low,  
And I bled, by the dust;  
And beating my head with her stick, she  
said:  
"You'll marry me now, I trust?"  
And hoping I fled, I calmly replied:  
"Why, I s'pose I will, if I must."

When she loosened my neck, I upped,  
by Heck!  
And sprang away with a laugh.  
But alas for my roar! It was prema-  
ture.

She wasn't yet done, by half;  
Far, far down the pike—Oh, I felt some-  
thing strike  
In the veinless part of my calf.

So I plunged to the earth as price of my  
mirth,  
And chewed the sed with a pout,  
And I watched her come, with the gun  
on her thumb.

The evening lady about;  
And I heard her say in the charmingest  
way:  
"Shall the wedding bells soon ring out?"

(Well, I was wed with a cloth on my  
head—  
Slinging, what the laggard-love gets!)  
And I ain't one to kick her shoe done me  
the trick.

But I'll name you this for your bane:  
That the bachelor bean hasn't got any  
show  
With them Michigan girl coquettes.  
H. S. H.

## MERELY JOKING.

Limited Limbs.

"Boy," called out the driver of the eight-  
horse team, "reluctant to get up with a flourish  
in front of the country road house, 'come  
out and hold my horse a minute, will you?'  
The driver, who had answered the boy on  
the porch, 'I ain't no octopus.'"—Chicago  
Tribune.

The Quip Courteous.

Interfering Old Gentleman—"Er—pardon  
me, madam, but you're showing your ankle."  
The girl, as the cross-roader—"Well, I've  
a perfect right."

Interfering Old Gentleman—"So I see,  
madam. And a perfect left, too!"—London  
Sketch.

It Was Up to Tom.

Beas—"Do you think it's safe for me to  
go around with you alone?"  
Tom—"Why not?"  
Beas—"The last young man who took me  
autoing kissed me!"—Washington Post.

Might Be Busted.

"Doubly has an automobile, hasn't he?"  
"I don't know."  
"But you told me you saw him with one yesterday?"  
"Yes, but that was yesterday!"—Philadelphia  
Press.

Note the Distinction.

"And this," said the Tibetan guide, "is  
one of our prayers."  
"How ignorantly heathenish!" exclaimed  
Mrs. Globe-Trotter.  
"And do you not do your praying by ma-  
chines?"  
"Indeed, no. We have a preacher to do it  
for us!"—Cleveland Leader.

He Knew.

Hungry Hank—"I'd be obliged to yer, lady,  
for a meal."  
Mrs. Bright—"Aht, you're one of these  
after-dinner speakers."  
Hungry Hank—"Not exactly, lady, or I  
wouldn't be so hungry; I ain't even got no  
much as a chestnut about me!"—Philadelphia  
Press.

## POINTS FROM PARAGRAPHS.

Y GENERAL AINSWORTH'S report, just  
filed at Washington, the country is  
shown to have over 13,000,000 men  
available for military duty.  
The son of a lion is going to ignore  
Sweetenham—New York World.

Birmingham, Ala., has a skating rink with  
a seating capacity of 7,000. That's one place  
where you need plenty of room to sit  
down.—Washington Herald.

The opinion of most of the Senate lawyers  
seems to be that Senator Smoot, of Utah,  
who is legally married to his job.—New Orleans  
Times-Democrat.

Senator Tillman is one of the few men  
whose name is sufficient to enable them  
to hold indignation meetings unassisted.—  
Washington Star.

Still, there is every reason to believe that  
prayer in the New York Stock Exchange will  
accomplish more than it does in the United  
States Senate.—Newark (N. J.) News.

The Anti-Profanity Society would give up  
the fight to let it put on their hats  
with hat pins and a veil.—Washington  
Times.

If the resolution not to lie were as strong  
as the determination not to be called a liar,  
the world's veracity would be greatly en-  
larged.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

## COMMENT OF VIRGINIA EDITORS.

Help Your School.

There are times when purse strings are  
tightened when there is proposition of a  
public nature calling for contributions. The  
failure of this and the other project, and  
will refuse to pay money for further plan-  
ning which will bring money to their  
pockets. There are some of these men  
to be found in every community. Just as  
the average man in every hill. But  
when this condition becomes general, when  
men to whom the community has a right  
to look for a slight return for the benefit  
and the prosperity which they enjoyed, re-  
fuse thus to discharge one of their plain  
duties and when the number of such men  
becomes so great as to threaten the  
success of the movement in the public inter-  
est, that condition is an evidence of a spe-  
cies of a dry rot which, if not speedily re-  
moved, will invade the community. In the  
commercial graveyard.—Louisville Enterprise.

Cornstalks and Cobs.

Some weeks ago we published in our local  
columns an article to the effect that the  
Department of Agriculture were engaged in  
making careful experiments of corn-stalks  
as a producer of electricity. They have  
developed the fact that not only corn-  
stalks, but corn-cobs, were proven to be  
of considerable value.

These experiments have proven that the  
large quantities of corn-cobs which go to  
waste every year, can be made to produce  
alcohol in sufficient quantities to justify the  
erection of a distilling plant, and a large  
quantity of corn-cobs.—Scottsville Enterprise.

Bailey's Case.

Surprise has been expressed by some that  
Bailey's case should have been made more  
Bailey's little indiscretion, when much greater  
offenders have gotten off lightly.

There is no difference as to Bailey:  
Southern Senators have heretofore been poor  
men, as a rule, but clean men of probity.  
That condition is an evidence of a spe-  
cies of a dry rot which, if not speedily re-  
moved, will invade the community. In the  
commercial graveyard.—Louisville Enterprise.

For all his financial name, Mr. Money,  
of Mississippi, claims that he is the  
wealthiest Senator in the United States.  
How about Dewey, Mr. Money?

There are no fewer than 208 different  
characters in the Abyssinian alphabet.  
Imagine your friend, Mr. Matthews, at  
an Abyssinian spelling-bee.

Ireland has selected as a national tradi-  
tional phrase, "Dianta I Eilinn."  
Candidly, do you think it was a wise  
choice?

The scientist who says that cooking  
does not kill bacilli is to be congratulated  
on having that kind of cook.

One of Michigan's beautiful girls shot  
a man and then married him. Aren't  
they the flirts out there, though?

Danion Day is expected to stand by  
Pythias Rockefeller in this hour of  
distress.

"The best of everything is not good  
enough for some people, while others  
just manage to worry along with it."  
—Puck.

## Voice of the People

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—In the excellent address of last  
Saturday at Lexington by Hon. Charles  
Francis Adams on the occasion of the  
celebration of the one-hundredth anni-  
versary of the birth of General Lee, the  
very of the birth of the South—that the  
surrender of the Army of Northern Vir-  
ginia and the disastrous ending of the  
war of 1861-5, were due to the complete  
exhaustion of the material resources of  
the Confederate States, has been pre-  
sented clearly and frankly as never be-  
fore from a Northern source. Our phase  
of this condition of exhaustion has never,  
as far as I know, been noticed with  
proper recognition of its importance—  
namely, the worn-out state of the rail-  
roads and railroad equipment of the en-  
tire South in the spring of 1865. The  
rails of branch lines and sidings had  
been taken up to repair the principal  
tracks, locomotives had been built out  
of much worn but still usable parts of  
old engines, passenger and freight cars  
(the latter largely used for the con-  
veyance of troops) had been patched to-  
gether out of the debris of wrecks, until  
pretty nearly the limit of possibility for  
such work had been reached.

The shrinking resources of home ma-  
chine works and of importation from  
necessity more and more concentrated  
upon the supply of ordnance material  
and munitions, although railroad man-  
agers got some, but wholly inadequate  
help, from these sources.

To those who have any personal knowl-  
edge of this state of things the opinion  
will not seem extravagant that, even had  
it been possible for the armies in the  
field to hold their ground for six  
months longer, the end must have come  
from sheer inability to move men, food  
and war material.

On a field as extensive as that of the  
Confederate struggle for existence rail-  
roads were indispensable. In the words  
of General Gordon of his old corps at  
Appomattox, they had been "fought to  
frizzle."

W. M. ALLETT,  
University of Virginia.

## The Early Closing Ordinance.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Sometimes a seeming victory  
proves in reality a defeat, and upon oc-  
casion has eventuated in a signal rout  
of the victors. The too dominant senti-  
ment of Richmond early this morning,  
when the Board of Aldermen so amended  
the liberal early-closing ordinance as to  
provide an "Indulgence" in honor of the  
Jamestown Exposition period, it is not  
now a question of the early closing, but  
of the attitude of the members of the  
retained the majority in the Board, and  
I certainly do not  
herdly impugn their motives—but the  
rather one of cause and effect. I am  
greatly deceived if those who favor the  
original ordinance, regardless of honest  
differing opinions as to prohibition, to  
not see a common ground of vigorous  
and united determined protest against  
this city's advertising a special dispensa-  
tion for dissipation's opportunities in  
connection with the Jamestown Expon-  
sition. It is well that the celebration  
of the nation's past should be an inter-  
esting and a profitable one, and that the  
commemorable endeavor and achieve-  
ment to somewhat divert the popular  
mind from the unpleasant reflection upon  
the home-made gold of legislation, to  
practically invite, by special invitation,  
the visit to our city of those who "tarry  
long at the wine" is the limit of the  
saloon's defiant attitude towards Rich-  
mond's fast crystallizing temperance sen-  
timent. The action of the Board this  
morning should certainly be arrested, to  
be of the liberal ordinance that an hour  
or two of the early closing, or the early  
closing hour be made so much earlier—  
a salutary rebuke. Let's "all together"  
to defeat the amendment!

W. M. BICKERS,  
Richmond, Va., January 18, 1907.

## McCabe and John Smith.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Saturday's London, publishes a  
long letter from William Gordon McCabe,  
the author and educator of Richmond,  
Va., demolishing General Baden-Powell's  
claim to be a descendant of Captain John  
Smith.

The day before he went to South Africa,  
where he found fresh distinction at Mafeking,  
General Baden-Powell sent a bust  
of John Smith of his own composition to  
Judge Marger, who subsequently pre-  
sented it to the State of Virginia.

In a letter accompanying the bust, Gen-  
eral Baden-Powell claimed Captain Smith  
as an ancestor, stating that it had been  
ascertained that Smith married while in  
America. His grandson, Benjamin, lived  
in New Jersey, and died in 1891. Ben-  
jamin's son, Joseph, came to England, mar-  
ried, and was the father of General W.  
Baden-Powell's grandfather, Admiral W.  
H. Smyth, whose daughter was General  
Baden-Powell's mother.

The general further stated that this  
branded the Smith family as entitled by  
ancient letters from William Gordon McCabe,  
the author and educator of Richmond,  
Va., demolishing General Baden-Powell's  
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